Transfer of Centre for Plasma Physics, Guwahati

2070. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Expert Committee under the Department of Science and Technology has recommended transfer of Centre for Plasma Physics, Guwahati, Assam from the State Government to Central Govemment,

(b) whether it is also a fact that the final Cabinet paper has been placed for consideration of the Cabinet in connection with transfer of Centre for Plasma Physics to Central Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is a fact that Government have agreed to transfer of CPPG from State Government of Assam to Central Govemment by the end of March, 2006; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (e) Department of Science and Technology had submitted a proposal for taking over of the Centre for Plasma Physics (CPP), Guwahati for consideration of the Government of lndia. The Planning Commission commented that a similar Institute, Institute of Plasma Research (IPR), is working in the same field and is already under the Government of India (Department of Atomic Energy). It would be desirable that the activities of the Centre for Plasma Physics, Guwahati are integrated with the Institute of Plasma Research (IPR), under the Department of Atomic Energy. The matter is being referred to the Department of Atomic Energy.

Research Centre on Glaciology

2071. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of rapid receding of Himalayan glaciers, the Prime Minister directed to set up Research Centre on Glaciology immediately;

(b) if so, the details thereof;